

November 8, 1974

Dr. William F. Raub

Chief
Biotechnology Resources Branch
Division of Research Resources
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Dear Bill,

I very much appreciate your letter of October 25th and I have to correct your letter in only one respect. Your contributions in the Biotechnology Resources Branch have operated not on a small way but on a very large one!

My main purpose is, of course, to wish you the very best in your new position which I am sure will have enormous challenges, given the ripeness of all sorts of new approaches to compensating for partial and complete loss of vision. In fact, we have a new research fellow in our department who spends much of his time doing statistical work that is computer oriented and I have been wondering whether we might not try to set up some kind of demonstration program to prove out devices that might facilitate his own interaction with the SUMEX system. Any thoughts that you might develop along these lines would be of great interest to us.

I cannot refrain from adding just one other note: namely that as might be illustrated by Sorsby's well known work clinical genetics had one of its firmest starts in ophthalmology but this has been somewhat left behind with all of the recent push in other directions that has tended to emphasize pediatrics, chromosome disease, etc. There are still lots of problems in this general area that quickly span the most basic and the most practical research interests: I need hardly mention more than the word retinoblastoma to illustrate what I mean. I hope you will have an opportunity to sustain lively attention to these points of view in your new role.

Again, with all our very best wishes to you,

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Principal Investigator

Sightless

JL/rr